

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Method and system for allocating predictable costs for consumable items of a laser system includes determining an average or predicted lifetime of one or more components of a laser system. Then, costs are estimated for the repair and/or replacement of the components in advance of their predicted failure. The costs are then scheduled to be paid at a known time or known times. The average or predicted lifetime may be determined in terms of time, pulse count, accumulated energy input to the discharge, number of workpieces processed or another countable parameter. Also, the component or components predicted to fail may be ordered in advance for rapid delivery at the time of failure. The components may include a laser tube, tube windows, a line-narrowing optical component, a line-narrowing module, a monitor optics module and a halogen filter, the pulser module for a gas discharge laser and/or containers of laser gas.

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